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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC RIACI IMMEDIATE 8180
INFO ANCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE
ANCONSUL SHENYANG IMMEDIATE
ANCONSUL GUANGZHOU IMMEDIATE
ANCONSUL SHANGHAI IMMEDIATE
ANCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

SECRET BEIJING 15546

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR LILLEY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, US, CH
SUBJECT: TYCMB: SECRETARY'S REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION ON CRISIS IN CHINA

REF: AMBASSADOR/SECRETARY JUNE 6 TELCON

1. (S) SUMMARY:

THERE IS A SANITARY
GORDON AROUND THE CENTER OF BEIJING WITH MAJOR
INTERSECTIONS ON THE SECOND RING ROAD CONTROLLED BY
ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND TANKS. WE CANNOT
CONFIRM THE SITUATION AT TIANANMEN SQUARE OR WHETHER
THERE IS FIGHTING BETWEEN GROUP ARMIES. ALTHOUGH
THERE ARE RELIABLE REPORTS OF BUILDING TENSION IN
THE MILITARY, FIGURES SOURCED TO THE CHINESE RED
CROSS STATE THAT 2,600 HAVE DIED AFTER BEING
HOSPITALIZED; THE MOST COMMON CREDIBLE FIGURE IS A
MINIMUM OF 10,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED. CIVILIAN
GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAS VIRTUALLY COME TO A
STANDSTILL

WE ESTIMATE THERE ARE
APPROXIMATELY 8,800 AMERICAN CITIZENS (1,400 IN
BEIJING) AND 428 US EMBASSY AND CONSULATE PERSONNEL
AND DEPENDENTS IN CHINA. (END SUMMARY)

2. (S) CURRENT MILITARY SITUATION (QAO ASSESSMENT):

THE PLA GENERAL STAFF DEPARTMENT IS
STILL FUNCTIONING AND WE BELIEVE THAT THE DIRECTORS
OF THE THREE STAFF DEPARTMENTS (GLD, GSD, AND GPD)
ARE LOYAL TO YANG. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF A
SPLIT BETWEEN DEFENSE MINISTER QIN JIWEI AND YANG.
THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS SOME MILITARY REGION
COMMANDERS HAVE REFUSED TO COME TO BEIJING TO MEET
WITH THE CENTRAL COMMAND.

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THERE IS A SANITARY GORDON AROUND THE CENTER OF
BEIJING FOR ABOUT TWO KILOMETERS AROUND TIANANMEN
SQUARE. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THE SHOOTING AT THE SQUARE
IS NOT NOW INDISCRIMINATE, BUT IT STILL CONTINUES.
INSIDE THE SECOND RING ROAD THE MILITARY IS IN FIRM
CONTROL, AND NEIGHBORHOODS IN THIS ZONE APPEAR
CALM. AT MAJOR INTERSECTIONS ON THE SECOND RING
ROAD, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND TANKS ARE BEING
USED TO CONTROL ACCESS TO THE CENTER OF TOWN. MOST
OTHER MAJOR INTERSECTIONS USED BY THE ARMY TO ENTER
TOWN NOW HAVE ROADBLOCKS OUTSIDE THE THIRD RING ROAD
AND ARE MANNED BY CIVILIANS WITH SUCH THINGS AS
"MOLOTOV COCKTAILS READY TO FIGHT. RULES OF
ENGAGEMENT ARE CLEAR IN THE PERIPHERAL ZONES, AND
THE ARMY IS ATTEMPTING TO AVOID THE USE OF DEADLY
FORCE IF POSSIBLE.

WE CANNOT CONFIRM THE SITUATION IN THE CENTER OF THE
TIANANMEN AREA. BUT THIS MORNING ALL APPEARED CALM
THERE WITH SOME TROOPS MOVED TO INSIDE THE FORBIDDEN
CITY. THERE IS INFORMATION THAT THE 27TH ARMY IS
BEING MORE BRUTAL THAN OTHERS. THIS IS A COMMON
THREAD IN STORIES CIRCULATING IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND
CHINESE COMMUNITIES. AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE,
THE 30TH ARMY, THE 63RD, AND THE 1ST TANK DIVISION
ALSO ATTACKED AND BRUTAL FORCE WAS INVOLVED. WE DO
NOT YET HAVE FIRM EVIDENCE THERE WILL BE FIGHTING
BETWEEN GROUP ARMIES OF THE PLA, BUT THERE ARE
PERSISTENT REPORTS THAT SUCH FIGHTING HAS OCCURED
BETWEEN SMALLER UNITS. NO ONE HAS YET ETHERALLED
THIS. DESPITE PERSISTENT STORIES OF CARNAGE OR
POSSIBLE CARNAGE IN THE UNIVERSITIES AREA, NONE HAS
OCCURRED SO FAR ACCORDING TO OUR EYEWITNESSES.

3. (C) ESTIMATE OF CASUALTIES:

WE CANNOT PIN DOWN AN ACCURATE RANGE FOR NUMBERS OF
DEAD AND WOUNDED. HOSPITALS HAVE NOT BEEN
FORTNGOMING WITH INFORMATION. THE CHINESE RED CROSS
FIGURE OF 2600 HAVING DIED AFTER BEING HOSPITALIZED
IS THE HARDEST FIGURE WE HAVE THUS FAR. GIVEN THE
LEVEL OF BRUTALITY THAT WE KNOW OCCURRED, WE BELIEVE
THAT THE MEDIA REPORTS OF MANY THOUSANDS INJURED ARE
CREDIBLE. THE MOST COMMON CREDIBLE FIGURE WE HAVE
HEARD IS A MINIMUM OF 10,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED.

4.

5. (C) MEETINGS WITH CHINESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
Review Authority: MILLER, ROBERT
Date: 01/23/96
Case ID: 9205307

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CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAS COME TO A VIRTUAL
STANDSTILL. ON JUNE 6 THE AOCN WILL MEET WITH THE
NEW DIRECTOR OF THE MFA AMERICAS DEPARTMENT AND AN
OFFICIAL FROM PROTOCOL (RESPONSIBLE FOR EVACUATION
FLIGHT CLEARANCES). ON JUNE 5, THE STATE EDUCATION
COMMISSION AND THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY
CANCELLED SCHEDULED MEETINGS WITH US. EMBASSY WENT
TO A CITY POLICE STATION THE EVENING OF JUNE 4, AND
FOUND ALL THE DOORS AND GATES LOCKED, EXTERIOR
LIGHTS OFF, AND NO POLICE OFFICERS WILLING TO GO OUT
ON THE STREETS. I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BY TELEPHONE, BUT
OVERALL OUR MOST COMMON INTERLOCUTORS HAVE BEEN DUTY
OFFICERS AND MIDDLE LEVEL OFFICIALS. THE GOVERNMENT

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6. (C) OTHER EMBASSY PLANS REGARDING EVACUATION:

7. (C) USG EMPLOYE

EMPLOYEES

DEPENDENTS

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BEIJING 111 185

CHENGDU 6 8

GUANGZHOU 27 36

SHANGHAI 16 21

SHENYANG 10 8

SUB-TOTALS 170 258

GRAND TOTAL 428 USG EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS

8. AMERICAN CITIZENS IN CHINA:

WHAT FOLLOWS IS AVAILABLE INFORMATION ABOUT TOTAL NUMBERS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO MAY BE IN CHINA. THIS INFORMATION IS BROKEN DOWN BY DISTRICT AND IS BASED ON MOST RECENT F-77 REPORT.

(1) BEIJING CONSULAR DISTRICT

— BEIJING CITY

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 1811
OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTACTED EMBASSY 488

(BEIJING GENERALLY WOULD HAVE 2000 TOURISTS AT ANY ONE TIME, HOWEVER, AT THE MOMENT WE BELIEVE THERE ARE PROBABLY NO MORE THAN 400 TO 600 TOURISTS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE CONTACTED THE EMBASSY ALREADY AND PROVIDED THEIR WHEREABOUTS.)

— DISTRICT OUTSIDE OF BEIJING

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 900
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 400

(2) SHANGHAI CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 600
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 2400

(3) SHENYANG CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 259
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 250

(4) CHENGDU CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 191
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 1000

(5) GUANGZHOU CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 1820
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 600

EMBASSY THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL FIGURES HAVE NOT CHANGED SINCE SUBMISSION OF 1989 F-77, WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS IN ITS FILES.

ONE ESTIMATE OF THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CITIZENS NOW IN BEIJING IS APPROXIMATELY 1,500. THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ESTIMATED 75 PERCENT OF THEIR AMERICAN DEPENDENTS HAVE ALREADY LEFT CHINA. IBM, BECHTEL, AND WTC HAVE ORDERED THEIR EXPAT STAFFS TO LEAVE CHINA. TWO-THIRDS TO THREE-FOURTHS OF OUR BUSINESSMEN IN BEIJING WILL BE GONE BY THE END OF

THIS WEEK.

9. REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:

SHANGHAI REPORTED AN INITIAL POSITIVE REACTION AMONG STUDENTS. THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY WAS REASSURED BY THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON CONTINUITY IN OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

ELLEY

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